Foodgrains stored in FCI godowns

*275. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:
SHRI KA. RA. SUBBIAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the percentage of damage of foodgrains stored in the FCI godowns, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have allocated special funds to improve the standards of godowns so that the damage to foodgrains is reduced;

(d) the number of open-air godowns, which use tarpaulin, etc. to preserve foodgrains particularly during rainy season; and

(e) whether Government would consider to provide more funds to modernise the present system of godowns?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Out of 327.06 lakh tonnes of foodgrains held with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) as on June 30, 2001, about 1.82 lakh tonnes of foodgrains were damaged. A statement indicating the position of damaged foodgrains State-wise/Region-wise is enclosed (*See* below).

(c) Government provides funds to the FCI for construction of godowns which include both covered godowns and Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage complexes. Foodgrains are stored in a scientific manner in the godowns maintained by the FCI.

(d) Presently, the FCI is operating 411 Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage complexes.

(e) In order to reduce storage and transit losses of foodgrains, and to introduce modern technology of bulk handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains, the Government has announced a national policy on handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains. The policy envisages harnessing the efforts and resources of public and private sectors, both domestic and foreign, to build and operate

infrastructure for bulk handling, storage and transportation of food-grains. The policy also envisagaes creation and operation of conventional storage godowns by private sector for storage of foodgrains of the FCI on Build-Own-Operate (BOO) basis.

Statement

Region-wise Commodity-wise position of damaged foodgrains as on 30.06.2001

(Figures in MT)

S. No.	Name of Region	Wheat	Rice	Paddy	Others	Total Stock
	EAST ZONE					
1.	Bihar	4758	8601	34	0	13393
2.	Jharkhand	1095	3061	0	0	4156
3.	Orissa	120	3726	0	0	3846
4.	West Bengal	1938	34871	1	0	36810
	Zone Total	7911	50259	35	0	58205
	NEF ZONE					
1.	Assam	145	770	0	0	915
2.	NEF States	12	2617	0	0	2629
	Zone Total	157	3387	0	0	3544
	NORTH ZONE					
1.	Delhi	27	6	0	0	33
2.	Haryana	164	179	216	0	559
3.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	4293	0	0	4293
5.	Punjab	14152	76	77836	0	92064
6.	Rajasthan	360	250	0	0	610
7.	Uttar Pradesh	3540	7736	14	3	11293
	Zone Total	18243	12540	78066	3	108852
	SOUTH ZONE					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	404	12	0	0	416
2.	Kerala	115	3531	0	0	3646
3.	Karnataka	1116	200	0	0	1316
4.	Tamil Nadu	150	513	0	0	663
	Zone Total	1785	4256	0	0	6041
	WEST ZONE					
1.	Gujarat	3194	157	0	0	3351
2.	Maharashtra	1516	49	0	0	1565

S. No.	Name of Region	Wheat	Rice	Paddy	Others	Total Stock
3.	Madhya Pradesh	79	75	0	0	154
4.	Chhattisgarh	4	12	0	0	16
	Zone Total	4793	293	0	0	5086
	COUNTRY TOTAL	32889	70735	78101	3	181728

National Sample Survey on employment

*276. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the findings of the National Sample Survey on employment situation in the country during 1999-2000;

(b) the reasons for rise in unemployment rate, especially for rural youth; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to accelerate job opportunities for rural youth?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Some of the Key findings of National Sample Survey on Employment and Unemployment situation in India 1999-2000 are as given in the Statement. (*See* below)

(b) The unemployment rate in the rural areas has marginally gone up to 1.7 for males and 1.0 for females in 1999-2000 from 1.4 for males and 0.9 for females in 1993-94. This may be due to increase in the labour force and non-availability of sufficient employment opportunities to absorb them.

(c) Ninth Plan has accorded priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. The plan has focused on sectores, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and underemployment.

Government have also been implementing special programmes for eradication of poverty and generation of employment. The major